

REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1, 4-6, 15, and 18-21 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 5, 6, 15, 20, and 21 being the independent claims. Claim 16 has been cancelled without prejudice.

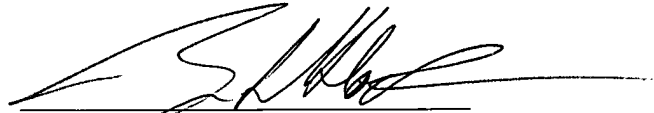
Claims 15, 20 and 21 have been amended. Applicant submits that support for these amendments can be found in the original disclosure, and therefore no new matter has been added.

Claims 1 and 4-6 have been allowed. Applicant appreciates the indication that Claims 16 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Rather than rewrite those claims, Applicant has amended independent Claims 15, 20, and 21 to recite the feature of Claim 16. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 15, 20, and 21, together with their dependent claims, are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all pending claims are allowable and that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the outstanding rejection, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Klock', is written over a horizontal line.

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